GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3168
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2003
SUSPENSION OF SAI COACHES
PRABODH PANDA

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of coaches of Sports Authority of India (SAI) are under suspension;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some coaches and sports persons have tested positive for the banned steroids; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a)&(b) : Yes, Sir. A total of 10 coaches are placed under suspension on the charges that their trainees have been found positive in the clinical test for banned substances (Doping). As per the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Rules and World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Code, Coaches come under the definition of athlete`s support personnel and they are also liable for sanction for anti-doping violation.

(c) No Coach has tested positive for doping. However, some sports persons have tested positive for the banned steroids.

(d) The Anti-doping Programme is managed by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) through a centrally sponsored scheme of Government of India called the `Scheme for Dope Test`.The government has launched the Scheme for Dope Test in the 10th Five Year Plan with the objectives: (i) to have an International Olympic Committee-accredited Dope Control Centre in India (ii) to maintain quality control system as required by International standard, i.e., ISO: 17025 (iii) to educate athletes, coaches and other supporting personnel about the harmful effects of dope (iv) to test and develop the rationale for drug free sports and a national anti-doping policy (v) to conduct in-competition and out- of-competition dope tests on sportspersons (vi) to promote research and training and (vii) to harmonize the dope-related regulations in tune with the World Anti Doping Code and the rules and regulations framed by the World Anti Doping Agency from time to time.

SAI has a Dope Control Centre (DCC) located at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi. DCC has got ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 17025 certification which are mandatory requirements as per International Olympic Committee (IOC) norms for seeking permanent accreditation for the DCC.

Government has dealt with the problem of doping in sports both at preventive and punitive levels. Elaborate efforts are being made by the Sports Authority of India to educate the players. National Sports Federations have been asked to take action against sportspersons found guilty of doping and compliance reports obtained from them. SAI has also taken disciplinary action against coaches in the light of positive dope result in respect of certain sportspersons coached by them.